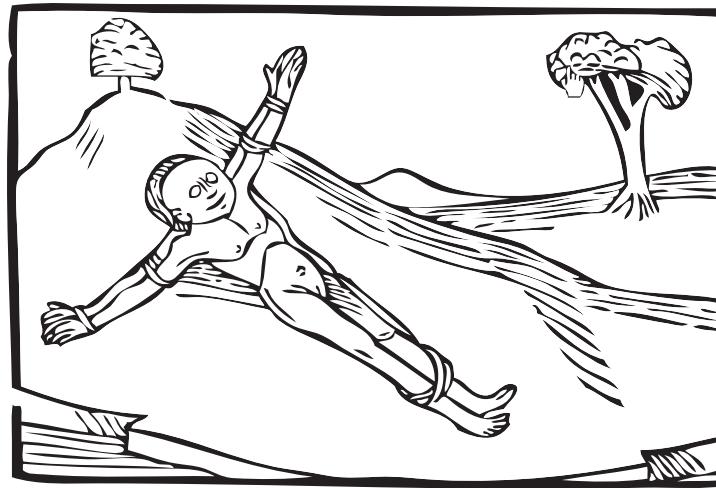


# Decay Modernism

In his recent book *Passages of Proteus* written in 2011, Colombian mathematician Fernando Zalamea identifies the process of decay as an expression of a profound continuity in nature through which "creativity expands without brake". The emphasis of this talk will be on a non-romantic conception of decay as a building process whose chemico-mathematical truth constitutes the very kernel of the dialectic of the abstract and the concrete in art and a formalism based not on obstruction (i.e. various modes of singularity such as the novel, the ideal and the sublime) but on acceleration, or 'creativity without brake'. The underlying logic of decay is presented as a mode of synchronization or modernization of the living with and according to the dead. Far from moderating the tension between the living and the dead by embarking upon a speculative justice program (Meillassoux) or overcoming such tension through a quasi-mystic anti-modernist impulse, Decay Modernism brings about the possibility of thinking the dead outside of the culture of reconciliation and understanding culture as an epistemological vanishing point of different parallel orientations of nature for the modern subject.

# Aristotle's Etruscan Torture as the Metaphysical Model of Abstraction



The Intensive

Ratio

The Extensive

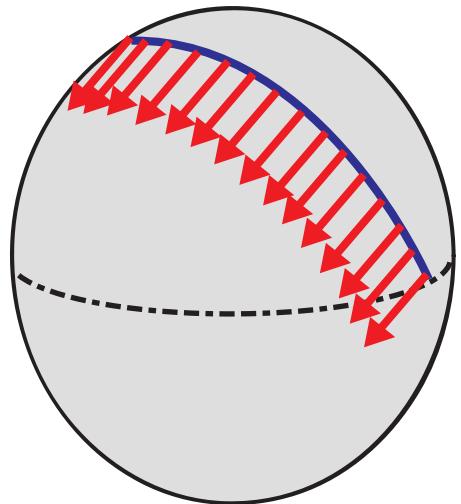


*Abstract*

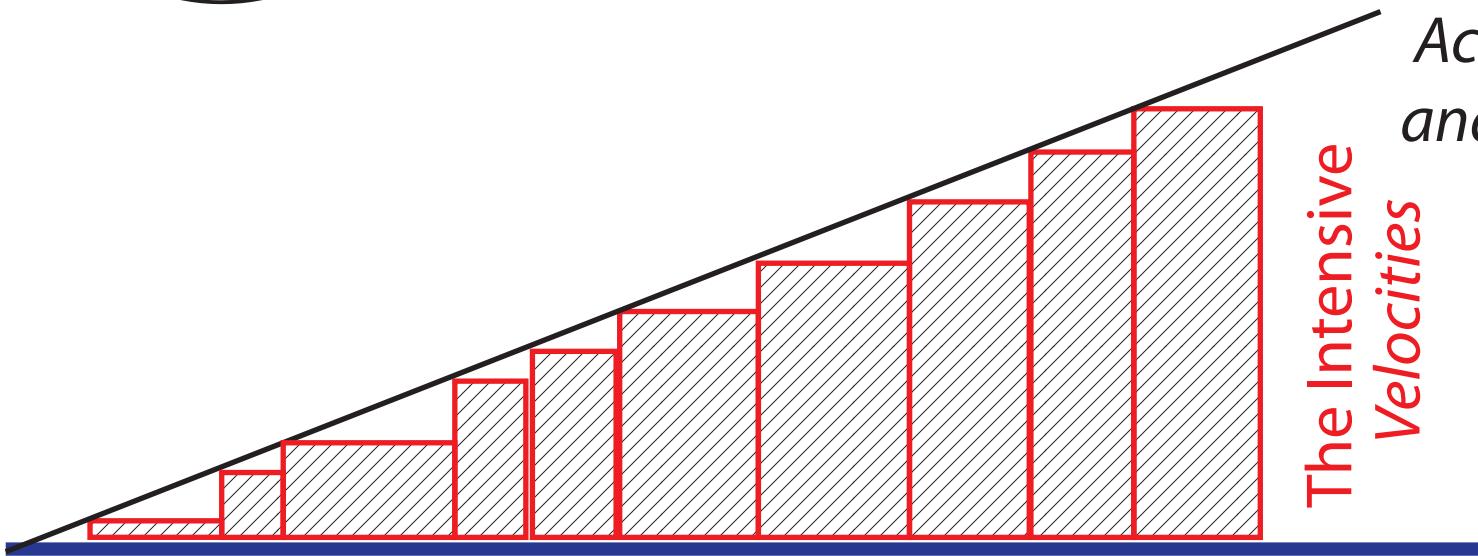
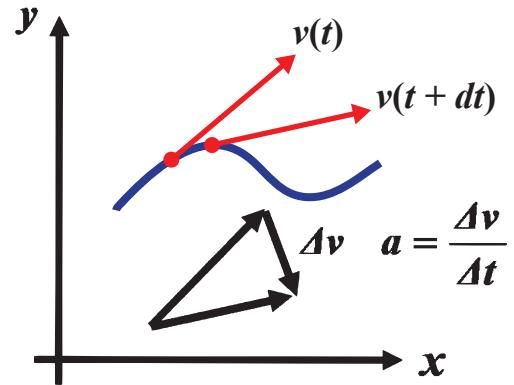
*Reason  
(gradational)*

*Concrete*

## Parallel Transport



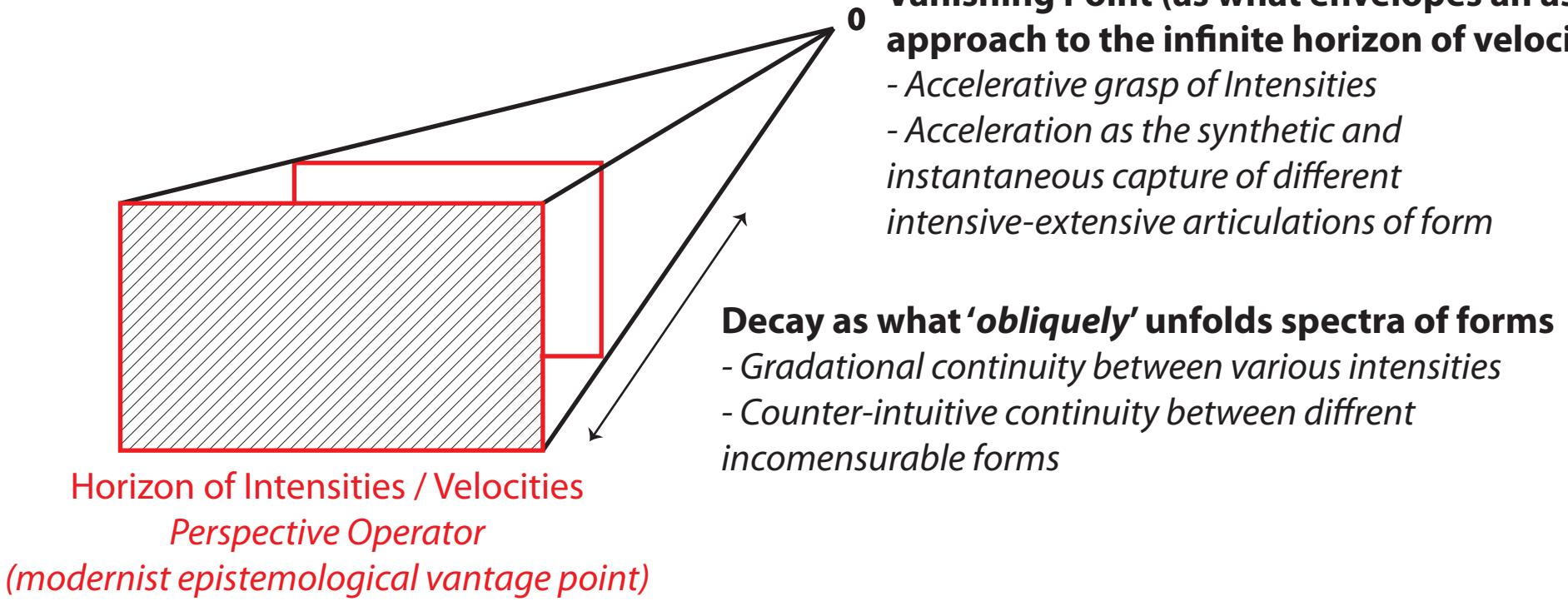
## Acceleration and Infinitesimal Synthesis



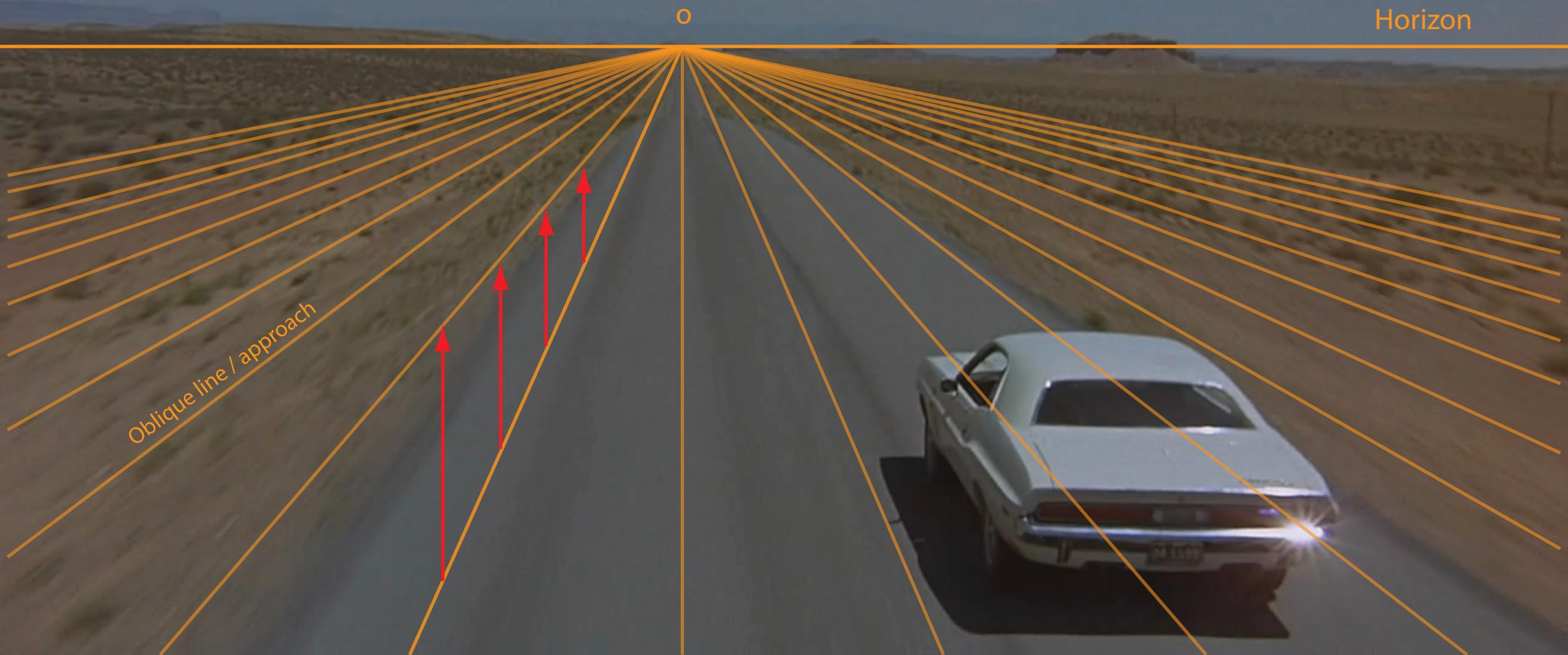
The Extensive  
*Distribution of Time*

Oblique Gradational Line  
*Accelerative, Constructible  
and Performative*

The Intensive Velocities



**Acceleration allows for a definite envelopment of an infinite horizon (Once approached by way of acceleration, culture becomes a well-defined and constructible epistemological horizon for obliquely grasping the infinite of nature. Modernity, in this sense, is a full-fledged epistemological program. One that constructs vanishing points through an accelerative approach to the entire planetary and cosmic landscape. )**



Vanishing point: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vPKVfSM0cyU>

